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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior listings of claims. Please cancel Claims 1, 29, and 36, without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend Claims 2 and 30-35.

- 1. (Canceled)
- 2. (Currently Amended) An isolated or purified protein as claimed in claim 1 having an amino acid sequence where one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1, wherein one amino acid residue is deleted, added, or substituted, and the protein binds to Nef.
- 3. (Previously Presented) An isolated or purified protein having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1.
 - 4-28. (Canceled)
 - 29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Currently Amended) A <u>recombinant</u> protein as claimed in claim 29 having an amino acid sequence where one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1, wherein one amino acid residue is deleted, added, or substituted, and the protein binds to Nef.
- 31. (Currently Amended) A <u>recombinant</u> protein as claimed in claim 29 having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1.

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32. (Currently Amended) A protein as claimed in claim [[2]] 30, wherein said protein is isolated.

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- 33. (Currently Amended) A protein as claimed in claim [[3]] 31, wherein said protein is isolated.
- 34. (Currently Amended) A protein as claimed in claim [[2]] 30, wherein said protein is purified.
- 35. (Currently Amended) A protein as claimed in claim [[3]] 31, wherein said protein is purified.
 - 36. (Canceled)